

Spotlight On

Army Colonel Peter M. Aylward

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Melrose, Mass. native, Army Colonel Peter M. Aylward, is the Chief of the Plans Division for United States Northern Command (NORTHCOM). Aylward joined the military because "my best friend, Gerry Comeau, convinced me to join. Gerry's father, a former Marine who was awarded the Purple Heart on Iwo Jima, was our Armored Cavalry Squadron Commander." Aylward was heavily involved with the activation of the U.S. Northern Command. Army Lieutenant General Edward Soriano, former Commander of Joint Force Headquarters Homeland Security (JFHQ-HLS) and now Commander of I CORPS Fort Lewis Washington said, "As a member of the joint implementation planning group of the implementation planning team for the U.S. Northern Command, Colonel Aylward excelled as a Joint planner responsible for conducting mission analysis of USNORTHCOM assigned responsibilities and producing the base plan and appropriate annexes to the USNORTHCOM implementation plan. As a direct result of his efforts, a comprehensive implementation plan was developed for the US NORTHCOM command transition team and cadre in order to achieve initial operational capability by 1 October 2002." Aylward said his role models are his father, Thomas, and sister, Patricia. "They taught me to lead by example, trust in the Lord and never give up. Also, Jack Walsh, Coach of the San Francisco 49ers, because he knew how to take a team of players with diverse talents and backgrounds, focus them on the fundamentals throughout the regular season, through the playoffs and into the Super Bowl so they could win the ring." This past April 4th, COL Aylward was inducted into the Fort Benning Officer Candidate School Hall of Fame. Aylward has six sisters and four brothers and has been stationed in Colorado Springs since August 2002.



Army Colonel Peter M. Aylward
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